



Excelsior College Newsletter



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Going Dotty for Children in Need

Congratulations to all Excelsior College students who went 'spotty' raising money for Children in Need. We are still counting, but thanks to all the hard work, the students will raise in excess of £229.00. Khadeeja Abbas, Krystian Osicki and Ryan Bates all supported the event by organising raffles and cake sales.

The team finished in an impressive 3 hours and 35 minutes - this is going to be expensive for some!



Jordan Mair volunteered to have his legs waxed, with the students and staff paying to apply a strip of wax. Oh was he brave!



You can tell from the look on his face in these photographs that this was an extremely painful experience!

Daniel Cook, Asad Nadeem, Daniel Kerr and Mr Ian Stonehouse also did their bit, cycling to Hexham and back to raise funds. If they successfully completed their journey in less than four hours sponsors pledged to pay double money.

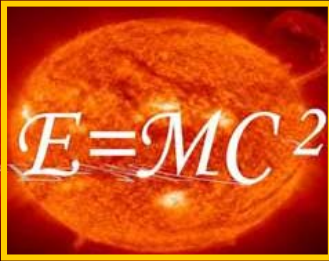


Thank you also to the two gentlemen en route to Hexham who kindly put their hands in their pockets and contributed to the cause.



December 2011

"We're on the web" - www.excelsiornewcastle.org.uk

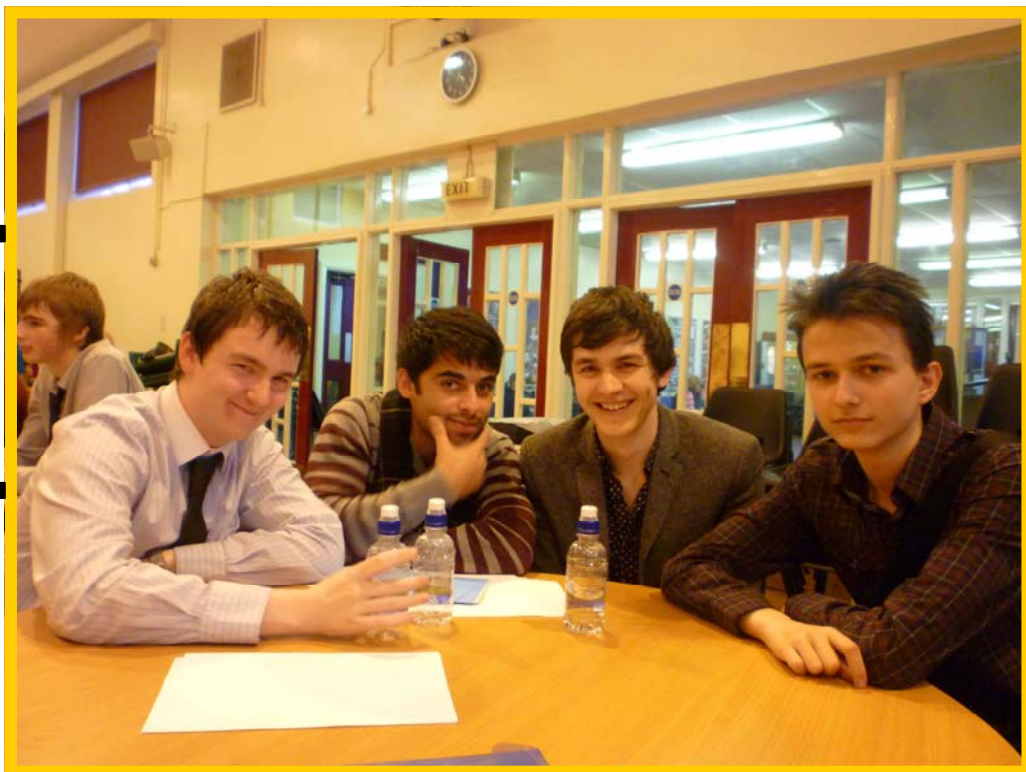


Excelsior Students go...

Mathematics Crazy!

Excelsior College students competed against some of the best and brightest Mathematics students in the region in a Maths Challenge Event held at St Thomas More School in North Shields. Other schools competing were Dame Allan's, St Cuthbert's, Gosforth Academy and of course St Thomas More.

Asad Nadeem said 'Although we did not win it was absolutely brilliant, maths is such fun.' The four students, Asad, Daniel Kerr, Daniel Cook and Aleksey Solovey all have a real flair for maths studying the subject at A Level and they relished the opportunity to sharpen their maths skills.



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Excelsior Academy Awards Evening

College Students Excel



Congratulations to those students from Excelsior College who received awards at the Annual Presentation Evening held in the Banqueting Suite at Newcastle Civic Centre. It was with great pride that Mrs Ellison-Wardlaw presented awards to recognise and applaud the achievements and successes, community work and enterprising attitudes of last year's students. The role these students play in inspiring the younger students and others in their community cannot be underestimated and it is right that these efforts should be recognised.



Mrs Ellison-Wardlaw said "The event marks a very successful year for so many Excelsior College students and selecting those who should be presented with a prize was not an easy choice. Achievement comes in various forms but always requires aspiration and qualities such as perseverance, effort and commitment. I feel very honoured to be able to say these wonderful ambassadors are/were Excelsior College Students.

Well done."



Health Alive Event at Northumbria University



With much chasing and cajoling, ten year 12 students descended on Northumbria University for a Health Alive Event. Once there, any fears of a dull afternoon were swiftly dispelled.

Khadija, Zoe, Adele, Pretty and Sam were ushered off to meet Lloyd, Course Leader of the Operating Theatre Practitioner's Course, who was waiting in a mock up theatre. They got to look at some scary bits of kit and learn why it's so important that everything is counted in and out of theatre.

The session on Moving and Handling, saw fun and games alongside the serious issue of safe, sensitive movement of individuals. Students got to try out the equipment and even suggested the "funky" wheelchair might be useful for some of the staff when moving around school.



Meanwhile Victoria, Sophie, Sam, Maryam and Afsana were finding out about occupational therapy and how difficult it can be to do simple tasks when you're in a wheelchair or only have the use of one hand.

"The hand washing session seemed straightforward until we had our hands checked under a special light – dirt glowed white – and no one managed 100% clean. We were told there is a difference between social and clinical hand washing and were shown how to do it correctly, because poor hand cleaning can contribute to MRSA and C Difficile infections."

The final session was with some SIM people (Robotic Simulators). The surgeon, who develops them, gave us an insight into their use in training medical staff. We all got a fright when one of them spoke.

Ten Year12 students descended on Northumbria University for a Health Alive Event.

These amazing, robotic people are a ground breaking piece of technology. They allow staff to learn basic skills prior to working on humans. They breathe, have a pulse and talk. *“You can inject them, set up drips and much more. There is work in progress to develop a SIM woman who can give birth.”*

The students and staff participated enthusiastically, asked questions and had an interesting afternoon. It helped some students clarify what they might like to do in the future. Afsana is now interested in Child Nursing rather than Fashion. A success all round and well worth sacrificing an early finish on a Friday afternoon! Thanks to Northumbria University for inviting us.



College Students Present ...

... our fabulous Snow White and her Dwarfs



In the Christmas Show on Wednesday 7th December the Year 12 and Year 13 students presented Snow White. As usual, 6th form students provided valuable mentoring and support to cast and crew. Louise Ross, Neil Purvis-Riddell, Andrea Scrimshaw and Believe Ekeke did a magnificent job supporting the younger pupils, not only during the performance, but also in the run up to the big event and in rehearsals.



Neil Purvis-Riddell provided most of the technical support, Louise took on the responsibility of scripting the host links and also presenting the event with Andrea Scrimshaw. Believe supported the choreography and movement work.

Once again Excelsior College students come up trumps!





Environmental Enthusiasts!

Countryside and Environment students had a cold but interesting day out when they visited Throckley Dene as part of their investigation into Countryside Recreation. Despite the winter chill the students enjoyed a very informative and thought provoking talk by a Newcastle City Council Park Ranger.



Students learned some useful facts about the dene and will continue their research in lessons. Their aim is to produce an information leaflet ready to give their own tour and talk in the spring.

Tea for Two



Year 12 Hospitality students have been studying the mouth watering topic of Contemporary World Food. They have investigated and researched foods from several regions of the world before preparing, cooking and presenting the delicious delicacies as part of their assessment. They began with a great British Afternoon Cream Tea successfully baking and decorating a Victoria sponge cake, fresh cream scones and shortbread biscuits. They not only looked fabulous, they tasted fabulous.



Next week they are cooking Irish dishes! We can't wait to see the results.

